

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, November 25, 1896, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. 1331 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. Nov. 25th 1896. My dear Alec:

I think take it all in all no husband was ever better to his wife than you to me and I have done nothing to deserve that you should be so good. I am very much touched by your birthday present to me, you must have worked hard to get it ready for me, and I thank you. I want to know all about it and can hardly wait for the letter. How did you manage, and have you managed so that Mr. and Mrs. Kennan are in sympathy? I think this is important because they have so much influence in town. Who have you got in charge of the reading room? I know that you have put it in the hands of the townspeople. How have you aroused their interest, I know there is no one who can arouse enthusiasm better than you. Oh dear I wish it didn't take so long for the mail to come. I have said nothing about the Library to Mamma and Papa and very little to any one else, because I was afraid it might make trouble, but this of course means that I have no one to share my pleasure now, especially as Elsie is away now.

It seems so strange to hear of cold freezing weather when it is so warm here, and the window is wide open by me, though I have only a thin silk waist on. We go around without capes or jackets and find our winter dresses hot. Miss Chaffin, Miss Rockwood's sister-in-law says it's hotter here than in pensacola, Florida. Miss Rockwood is no more, having become Mrs. Chaffin this morning. It was a pretty wedding with only the most intimate friends of the 2 family present. I sent her a pretty pin which she wore. Afterwards. Aileen and I made a few more calls and then I drove down town with Mamma and have since spent a quiet evening by myself. I was so pleased at your Uncle's remembering my birthday and sending me a copy of his second volume of Shakespeare. I don't care any

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longer to count the number of birthdays I have had, but I like to have the day remembered. The children telegraphed me, and Daisy wrote. She is a nice pussy about remembering dates. I wish I were better that way. And I wish with all my heart that I were better in every way and more worthy of you. Thank you for your love and thought for me.

Yours Mabel.